

My Master 53

Chapter 53: Master Is Never Inferior to Others_1

Cao Zhen, accompanied by several disciples, rode the Immortal Cloud Carriage toward Four Treasures Peak, feeling grateful for his luck in being reborn into a rule-abiding Immortal Cultivation Sect.

Bei Yan circled around Yan Yourong, asking his elder sister how she had broken through the barrier of her Waste Body.

Yan Yourong secretly sized up her master with a curious eye. Now that she had reached Perfect Completion in Immortal Bridge Realm, it seemed her master hadn't revealed his true full cultivation base during the duel between the two peaks, had he? When did her master become so unfathomably profound? What realm was her master's cultivation base? Core Formation? Or was it even Golden Core Stage?

When everyone returned to Four Treasures Peak, they found a white crane standing outside the courtyard, holding a golden scroll in its beak.

"A messenger white crane?" Bei Yan, out of curiosity, hopped off the Immortal Cloud Carriage and ran towards the white crane, looking back at Cao Zhen as he said, "Master, look! A messenger white crane! I've only heard of them before, this is my first time seeing an enlightened immortal bird."

Seeing Cao Zhen approach, the messenger white crane promptly tossed the golden scroll it held in its beak up into the sky, where the scroll slowly unfurled to reveal lines of ink characters leaping into the air from the scroll.

"Recently learned the Peak Master of Four Treasures Peak has forged a Perfect Fulfillment Tao Base. In accordance with Hundred Peaks rules, Cao Zhen is specially invited to stay at the Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace for a year to observe various classics. See this golden scroll and come without delay!"

After the aged voice from within the golden scroll faded away, the scroll slowly rolled back up and fell into the white crane's beak.

"The efficiency of Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace is quite high," Cao Zhen couldn't help but exclaim. There were many rules in the Hundred Peaks Sect, one of which was that anyone who cultivated to the

state of Perfect Fulfillment at any realm would be invited to reside in the Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace for some time and receive special care.

In the history of immortal cultivation, there were many who were full of potential, so the Hundred Peaks Sect, regardless of the cultivator's age or time spent cultivating, would surely invite them to the Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace once they achieved Perfect Fulfillment.

Generally, if someone reached Great Perfection in a particular realm, they would proactively report it, waiting for a summons from the Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace.

"Wait for me a moment," Cao Zhen said to the messenger white crane, then turned to instruct Yan Yourong and Ling Xi, "It seems your master has to visit Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace, and in a few days, You Rong might be called there too. Before Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace summons again, You Rong, you first go down the mountain to buy some materials for talisman making. When Mr. Qi arrives, Ling Xi, you teach him how to make talismans."

"Me?" Ling Xi asked unconfidently.

"Of course, it's you. You have the Ancient Talisman Immortal Body and a talent for talismans that others don't have," Cao Zhen instructed. "That Mr. Qi seems to have a decent cultivation base and should have good control over his mana too. Teach him to make talismans, and you should be able to earn quite a bit when you sell them."

It was only at that moment that Ling Xi realized why her master had insisted on making the man sell himself for fifty years; it turned out her master had made such plans at that moment.

The messenger white crane stretched its neck and let out a shrill cry. Its body rapidly expanded and grew larger, then it half-kneeled on the ground with its long legs.

Cao Zhen realized that Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace was indeed wealthy and generous. Spirit beast mounts had, he heard, quite an appetite and were generally something that the average peak could not afford.

"Once we have the money, Four Treasures Peak will also keep a couple. Their speed, I've heard, is much faster than the average Immortal Cloud Carriage."

Cao Zhen mused aloud as he leaped onto the back of the white crane and took off, using the time during the journey to calculate. Ever since condensing the five Dragon and Tiger Immortal Bridges, it seemed he would be busy for a while. Once he got through this busy period, life would return to the calm, undisturbed state it once was.

Then, he would refine alchemy, make talismans, sell them for money, refine alchemy again to improve his cultivation base, help his disciples improve their cultivation bases, refine artifacts, and eventually be able to traverse the universe to Earth. He could bring his parents back, refine pills for them for Foundation Establishment to improve their cultivation bases, and one day the whole family would ascend to immortality together.

"Master! If you see any broken rings or shattered swords in the Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace that no one pays attention to, remember to pick them up for me!" Xiang Ziyu rushed out the door, yelling and reminding Cao Zhen in the sky, "Those might just be fortuitous encounters!"

While the Immortal Crane flew quickly, it still took some time. Cao Zhen, seldom in a state of quiet safety, delved into his China Cloud mind palace to check in on Li Ke, having been too busy with other matters to keep up with the talent's progress in cultivation these past few days.

For this talent from Vermilion Bird Peak, Cao Zhen still had high expectations. Presently, the person who could provide the most experience value in a short period was none other than Li Ke.

"Master, I'm in closed-door cultivation. Can you keep it down?" Li Ke lay back against a cushion, holding a book of stories in one hand and stroking a black cat with the other, not even lifting her head as she said, "Disturbing someone's cultivation like this can easily lead to cultivation deviation."

"You're in closed-door cultivation? I just heard the sound of you eating sunflower seeds! Open the door quickly! The match I've found for you this time is definitely a once-in-a-millennium talent! You're getting on in years; you should also consider your future affairs."

The Stone Door was met with an anxious, yet pleasant-sounding female voice from outside. Through China Cloud, Cao Zhen could only see Li Ke's situation and couldn't make out what was happening beyond the stone door of the cave mansion.

"Master, last time you said I was a once-in-ten-thousand-years oddity, and now you're trying to match me with a once-in-a-thousand-years talent. Are you trying to have me marry beneath myself?" As Li Ke spoke, she opened her mouth and caught a grape that fell into it.

"You wicked disciple, do you only remember the first half of what your master said? I said you were a once-in-ten-thousand-years thorn!" the voice of reproach from outside did not cease, "Look at the holy maiden of Sun and Moon Sect, Fairy Qin Yao, graceful and elegant. Which young genius from the ten great Immortal Sects of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty doesn't see her as the top candidate for a Dao companion?"

"Ha! Qin Yao?" Li Ke sneered as she spat out a grape skin and replied, "Master, how do you know Qin Yao won't pick at her feet and make a mess when she eats after she goes back to her own Cave Mansion? Aren't I just as graceful and elegant in front of others? Graceful and elegant, my foot! Isn't my name also on the Most Coveted list of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty? Am I not also ranked near the top?"

"Then bring someone back to your master, why don't you!" The voice outside carried the familiar challenge tinged with a senior's reproach, "Azure Pheasant Peak's Chen Qingluan personally delivered an invitation to her direct disciple Qu Qingqing's Dao companion ceremony today!"

"Oh, it seems our Master will have to shell out quite a handsome betrothal gift again." Li Ke said, munching on another grape. "Master, earning Spirit Stones isn't easy for you. Your disciple had a small win at the gambling house the other day. Let me cover the cost of the betrothal gift this time! Am I not a filial disciple?"

"Am I asking you for a betrothal gift?" came the voice from outside, filled with helpless complaint. "In my lifetime, I've never been surpassed by others, especially not by Chen Qingluan! Didn't you see the look on her face when she came to deliver the invitation? If your master wasn't so well-cultivated, I'd have slapped her already."

Li Ke flipped to the next page of the book, continuing to eat grapes without any intention of responding.

At the moment that Li Ke turned the page, the stone door of the cave mansion shattered with a boom, and a beautiful middle-aged woman emerged from the dust.

"The minor era of the universe reversing is upon us, and you've not yet broken through to face the Wind Fire Death Tribulation, all because you want to avoid walking into a living grave during this era. When all the great figures are asleep, and only those below the Golden Core Stage go undetected by the Heavenly Dao, the darkest hour will arrive. It will be the most tumultuous decades, and though you are strong, you're still alone. If you could find an excellent dao companion..." the Vermilion Bird Peak Master said with a worried face.

"Master, your disciple is on the lookout," Li Ke, seeing her master break in, could only put down the book and stand to offer her master a cup of tea with both hands. "Master, rest assured! Your disciple will surely find a dao companion even better than Qu Qingqing's!"

"Where would you find one so easily?" the Vermilion Bird Peak Master sighed. "This time, Chen Qingluan found her disciple someone from the Four Extremes Sect, Shi Xiaolou."

Li Ke laughed, "Then wouldn't it be easy for me to just find anyone and you, my dear master, would win by default?"

"You think finding just anyone would mean victory for your master?" the Vermilion Bird Peak Master frowned. "That person has entered the Immortal Dao through painting and calligraphy, known as the lesser of the Dual Extremes, and counts as a standout among your peers. Besides, you're not getting any younger... This year you're already..."

"Master..." Li Ke interrupted the Vermilion Bird Peak Master, "Can we not talk about age? What does finding a dao companion have to do with age? Mustn't I find someone I like? It's a lifelong matter. Oh, by the way, Master! Recently, I accidentally gained the teachings of a secret technique from an immortal in the Immortal Realm and have achieved preliminary success with it."

"Immortal Realm? Immortal?" The Vermilion Bird Peak Master, concerned, quickly felt Li Ke's pulse for a moment, then said with a puzzled expression, "You're not possessed or delirious. How did this come about?"

Seeing that she had managed to divert her master's attention, Li Ke silently recited, "Heaven and Earth Mysterious Sect, the root of all qi. Cultivating through countless calamities, to manifest my divine skills."

The Gold Light Spell from Dragon and Tiger Mountain instantly enveloped Li Ke, and a vast power expanded outward from her body, causing the Vermilion Bird Peak Master to reflexively shield her eyes from the radiance.

"A Level One Divine Skill?" The Vermilion Bird Peak Master stared in astonishment at the glow around Li Ke. As the master of one of the Top Ten Peaks, her vision was naturally quite extraordinary.

Not just the Vermilion Bird Peak, but the entire Hundred Peaks Sect didn't possess many Level One Divine Skills!

The Vermilion Bird Peak Master had assumed that Li Ke had just created a spell, but with a casual display, it turned out to be a Level One Divine Skill she had never seen before.

She has achieved it? Cao Zhen, no longer paying attention to the usual marriage troubles in the cultivation world, hastily opened Li Ke's panel to check.

Identity: First Disciple of Vermilion Bird Peak

Strengths: Flames

Aptitude: Bi Fang Fire Body

Total Cultivation Experience: 500,000

Extra Experience: 1,000

Alchemy Level: Level 9

Talisman Level: Level 9

Formation Level: Level 9

Divine Skills: Heavenly Fire Path Level 40, Glazed Glass Vajra Body Level 40, Weak Water... Gold Light Spell Level 1.

"A thousand?" Cao Zhen felt like he'd found a gold mine; the experience points from a Level One Divine Skill were unexpectedly high!

Cao Zhen immediately opened his own panel and saw the Gold Light Spell at Level 1 as well, feeling relieved. Earning just 1,000 experience points would have been somewhat of a loss, but since learning the Gold Light Spell meant that Li Ke had also learned it and he got an additional 1,000 experience points, it actually turned out to be a gain for him!

"If she advances it to Level Forty, wouldn't that mean at least 40,000 experience points for me?" Cao Zhen quickly calculated. Although he would need more experience points to reach higher levels in the future, for now, 40,000 experience points were a significant asset to him.

After calculating the experience points in hand, Cao Zhen didn't rush to use them. Instead, he planned to first visit the Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace to see the situation there. He wanted to see how to best utilize this batch of experience points in conjunction with the palace's conditions.